

AF 09-0688

I am writing in support of proposed changes
to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that
a lawyer knows or should reasonably know
is harassment or discrimination based on
race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity,
disability, age, sexual orientation, gender
identity marital status or socioeconomic status
in conduct related to the practice of law.
No one seeking legal services should be treated
with bias + hostility simply because of who
they are. Sincerely, Dr. Hillary Daly

FILED

02/15/2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: AF 09-0688

AF 09-0688

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law.

Throughout its history, America has symbolized equality of opportunity for people of all races, origins, religions and creeds, serving as a beacon of hope for anyone seeking a better life. However, despite its founding principles of equality and acceptance, the United States also has a history of denying basic rights to certain people. Discrimination is wrong--no matter what form it takes, whom it targets, or where it occurs--yet discrimination in this country persists in a variety of ways.

Several years ago as part of a project conducted by the Butte Public library, I had the opportunity to document oral histories of leaders, members, and allies of the LGTQ community. The discrimination these community members lived through from the 1970s through the 1990s was demoralizing, heart-breaking, and at times downright terrifying.

Today, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people are denied many of the basic rights that most Americans enjoy. Certainly, the movement for full equality has come incredibly far in a short period of time--from the first-ever LGBT-inclusive hate crimes law Congress passed in 2009, to local nondiscrimination ordinances like Butte's in 2014, to nationwide marriage equality in 2015. But many barriers remain, and LGBT Americans still face discrimination in many facets of their lives.

No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Angela Jordan

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

PO Box 41
POPLAR, MT 59255-0041

February 11, 2017

Montana Supreme Court Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

We believe LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana.

We are writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. It's just plain UnAmerican!

As people who have great respect for the independence of our country's judiciary (even when we don't agree with some rulings), we are sure that you will agree that discrimination has no place in our state and country – and that equality isn't just a word, but a Constitutional guarantee.

No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Rodney & Ilene Standen
4067685264

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Feb. 11, 2017

Dear Supreme Court Justices -

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably ^{should} know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Sincerely,
Katherine Stacy Kim
56405 Moreau Valley Rd.
Moreau, MT 59824

AF 09-0688

LOUISE R. DAVIS
9443 Cottonwood Road
Bozeman, MT 59718
406-581-3073; louisedavis53@gmail.com

Supreme Court Justices of Montana
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
Helena, MT 59620.

February 13, 2017

To the Honorable Supreme Court of Montana,

Good morning to you all! I am writing in great support of the new proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Thank you for protecting ALL Montanans and discrimination against them!

Sincerely,

Louise R. Davis

Louise R. Davis

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

PO Box 167
Gardiner, MT 59030
February 13, 2017

Montana Supreme Court Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Building
Helena, MT 59620

To the Honorable Justices of the Court –

I am a resident of Gardiner, Montana who believes wholeheartedly in upholding the civil liberties of every human being regardless of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or any other social status. I believe that everyone is created equally and is endowed with full and absolute rights by virtue of their birth.

I urge your adoption of the proposed change to rule 8.4 that would provide protections to LGBT people or other marginalized individuals or groups **such that they may be guaranteed equal access and representation in the courts without discrimination.**

The State of Montana and the United States as a whole have made strides to assure that ***all*** members of our society are treated equally and without prejudice. It is critically important for the courts of Montana to continue to uphold these values of American democracy. Do not turn back the wheels of our tolerant society.

Please take steps to assure that legal services providers may not discriminate against LGBT individuals and groups by denying them equal access and representation in the courts. Please support the proposed change to rule 8.4 to assure all members of our society may be equally served without any form of discrimination.

Sincerely,



Mary Strickroth
PO Box 167
14 Gardiner View Rd.
Gardiner, MT 59030

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Joseph Cleary
910 Pumphouse Rd
Divide, MT 59727-9001

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

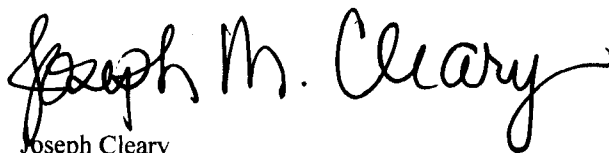
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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Joseph Cleary
7603107569

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Barbara and Scott Morgan
1610 Charlott Avenue

Missoula, Montana 59801

February 13, 2017

Supreme Court Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
Helena, MT 59620

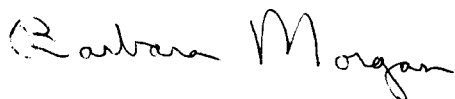
Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

I believe LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana. I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

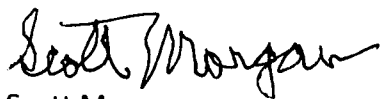
No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Barbara Morgan



Scott Morgan

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Bridget A Johnson
4529 North Av W
Missoula, MT 59804
Bridget59804@gmail.com
(406) 829-6407

February 11, 2017

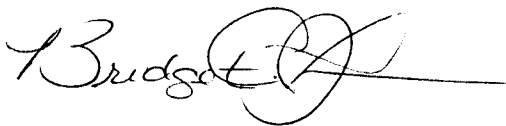
Supreme Court Justices
215 North Sanders - Justice Bldg
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative:

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Thank you for your consideration -- I trust these necessary changes will be made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bridget A Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bridget A Johnson

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Stephen Goheen
922 Little Willow Creek Road
Corvallis, MT 59828-9326

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

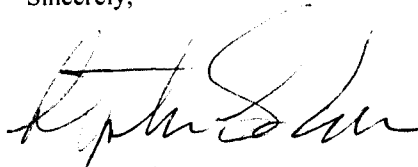
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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Stephen Goheen
406-961-4384

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Katherine Paxton
PO Box 1252
Missoula, MT 59806-1252

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

I believe LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana.

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Katherine Paxton
406-251-9704

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Deborah Kimmet
PO Box 1252
Missoula, MT 59806-1252

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

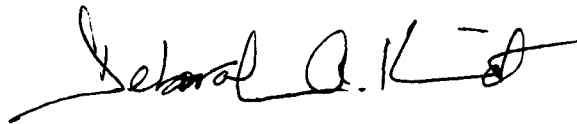
I believe LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana.

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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Deborah Kimmet
406-544-4704

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Barbara Gulick
2018 12th St. W.
Billings, MT 59102-3208

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Barbara Gulick
406-259-3622

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

K.G.H. Nicholes
10 Jawbone Rd
Martinsdale, MT 59053-8749

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

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Legal services are a monopoly system in our country. It is important that they be fully available to all who need them.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



K.G.H. Nicholes
406-572-3323

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Joy Barber
3015 10th Ave N
Billings, MT 59101-0723

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,

Joy E. Barber

Joy Barber

(406) 647-9856

barberjoye@hotmail.com

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Judy Fisher
1625 Silver Run Trail
Billings, MT 59106

Montana Supreme Court Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P. O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

RE: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

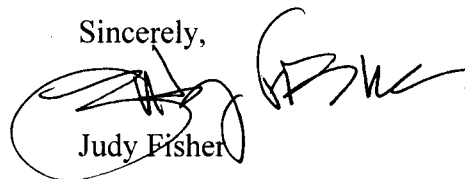
Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana:

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Please support the proposed changes to Rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,


Judy Fisher

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Robert Arstein
74 mountain view blvd
Billings, MT 59101-0235

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

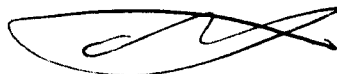
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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



ACLU Supporter. Robert Arstein
4068600054

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Bruce Cole
1117 W. PLATINUM STREET
BUTTE, MT 59701-2121

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

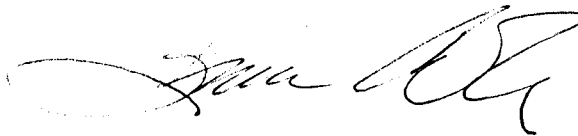
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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Cole", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Cole

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Gerta Mular
635 S. Pacific St.
Dillon, MT 59725-2762

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

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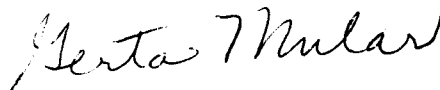
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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Gerta Mular
1-406-683-6877

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Claus-Konrad Gelbke
394 Painted Hills Road
Bozeman, MT 59715, USA
Tel. +1-406-404-1432

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Konrad Gelbke

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Barry Ivanoff
1400 Granite Ave.
Billings, MT 59102-0716

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Barry Ivanoff

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

William Hanson
2211 Fairway Dr.
Bozeman, MT 59715-5864

February 12, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

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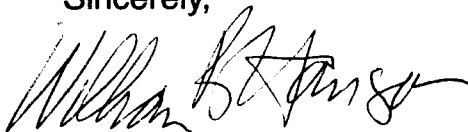
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No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



William Hanson
406-570-5160

FILED


FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

 Margie Strainer
212 East Nicklaus Ave.
Kalispell, MT 59901

406-755-0887

Margaret Strainer
2/10/17
mrsstrainer@gmail.com

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

Jenne and David A. Pugh
110 Rumsey Road
Philipsburg, MT 59858-9721

February 11, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

Re: LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana

Montana Montana Sup. Ct. Justices:

Dear Supreme Court Justices of Montana,

I believe LGBT people should have equal access and representation in the legal system in Montana.

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,



Jenne Pugh and David A. Pugh
406.859.1542

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

AF 09-0688

PAULA G FRESTON
373 Sheafman Creek Road
Victor MT 59875
pfreston@q.com 406-369-5844

February 13, 2017

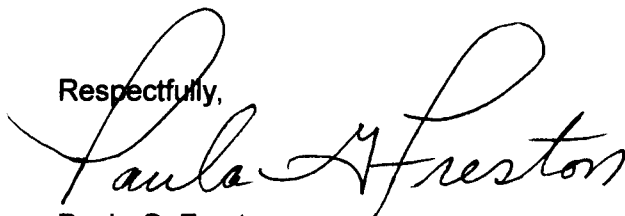
The Honorable Chief Justice Mike McGrath and
The Associate Justices of the
Montana Supreme Court
Justice Building
215 N. Sanders
P.O. box 203001
Helena MT 59620-3001

Dear Chief Justice McGrath and our Honorable Associate Justices:

I am writing to request your support of a proposed change to Montana's Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 8.4, that would prohibit conduct that a lawyer knows or reasonably should know is harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status or socioeconomic status in conduct related to the practice of law. No one seeking legal services should be treated with bias and hostility simply because of who they are.

This revision is necessary to bring Montana's Rules of Professional Conduct into alignment with the American Bar Association's recent change to re-characterize misconduct, to maintain the integrity of the profession, and to ensure that Montana remains consistent with the changing attitudes that have already caused more than half of this country's states to amend their Rules of Conduct to include the above prohibitions.

Respectfully,



Paula G. Freston

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Lacy Stephens
611 E Lamme St.
Bozeman, MT 59715-3724

February 13, 2017

Montana Sup. Ct. Justices
215 N. Sanders, Justice Bldg.
P.O. Box 203001
Helena, MT 59620

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Please support the proposed changes to rule 8.4 that would protect LGBT people and members of other marginalized groups by barring legal services providers from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,

Lacy Stephens
816-914-0597

FILED

FEB 15 2017

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA